



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 10, 2018**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CLASS OF 2018 OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY ALUMNI!**

This year, as we have for the past 92 years in support of our mission, **Oakwood University Alumni Association** has raised money for our Oakwood Student Scholarships as well as funding for other projects to support their success. From assistance to clear for fall or spring enrollment to final clearance to participate in this 2018 graduation, **OUAA** has stood firmly beside and behind our students' success. We are thrilled to rejoice with parents, families, and students as they cross their victorious finish line!

However, we express deep regret that circumstances beyond our control are preventing us from participating in the graduation weekend ceremonies as we have for the past 90 plus years. Read emails below to **OUAA** received from Oakwood University regarding reasons why we are not able to participate this year:

To: [psychhealth55@gmail.com](mailto:psychhealth55@gmail.com)

Cc: Leslie Pollard <[lpollard@oakwood.edu](mailto:lpollard@oakwood.edu)>, Cheri Wilson <[cwilson@oakwood.edu](mailto:cwilson@oakwood.edu)>, Colwick Wilson <[cmwilson@myou.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:cmwilson@myou.onmicrosoft.com)>, Karen Benn-Marshall <[kmarshall@oakwood.edu](mailto:kmarshall@oakwood.edu)>, Presidents Office <[presidentsoffice@oakwood.edu](mailto:presidentsoffice@oakwood.edu)>

Subject: **Commencement Exercises**

Good afternoon Dr. Powell-Hicks,

On behalf of the Oakwood University Board of Trustees, the University wishes to thank you for your previous service to the University during its annual Graduation Weekend.

Based on the April 16, 2018 action of the Board of Trustees and the April 17 letter of notification to you, the University will handle induction of its alumni internally across all services during the May 11-12, 2018 Graduation and Commencement Exercises this year, and until further notice.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Office of the Assistant Provost

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Hello Dr. Cynthia,

Your gifts to graduating seniors is greatly appreciated. However, to be consistent with Board actions, your gifts will be distributed through the Advancement and Development Office. Please let me know when we can expect those gifts.

On behalf of President Leslie Pollard

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**If you have comments and concerns, please reach out to us on the OUAA [Facebook page](#) or [contact@oakwoodalumni.org](mailto:contact@oakwoodalumni.org).**

May God bless all of you in your future endeavors and may God bless our Alma Mater, Oakwood University, and our 92 years strong **Oakwood University Alumni Association**, as we continue to fulfill our mission.

**OUAA Board of Directors**

**Cynthia Powell-Hicks, M.A., Ph.D., President**